

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/707,323

Examiner

Nghia M. Doan

Applicant(s)

GOODNOW ET AL.

Art Unit

2825

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Application filed on 12/05/2003 and supplement amendment filed on 08/01/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 9-10, 15-16, 21-23, and 28-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 20060810.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
PAUL DINH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Responsive to communication application 10/707,323 filed on 12/05/2003 and supplement amendment filed on 08/01/2006, claims 9-10, 15-16, 21-23, and 28-29 are pending.

Claims 9, 15-16, 21, and 23 have been amended.

Claims 11-14, 17-20, and 24-27 have been canceled.

Claim 29 has been added.

2. Applicant's arguments, on 06/27/2006 and claims amended filed on 08/01/2006 with respect to claims 9, 16, and 23 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The application is found in allowance condition.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Norman S. Yi (Reg. No. 58,268) on 08/10/2006.

Application is amended as the following:

As per claim 9, line 3, after "design language at" replaces "the" with "a".

As per claim 9, line 5, before "particular logic functions" deletes "the".

As per claim 9, line 12, before "output value" deletes "minority".

As per claim 16, line 16, before "output value" deletes "minority".

As per claim 23, line 17, before "output value" deletes "minority".

***Allowable Subject Matter***

4. Claims 9-10, 15-16, 21-23, and 28-29 are allowed over prior art made of record.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: taking as claim 9 for exemplary that the prior art made of record does not teach or fairly suggest the inventive steps/means in a method/system of building faulty tolerance logic function in an integrated circuit comprising: adding a fault tolerant operator to particular logic functions in said integrated circuit design description using a hardware design language at a register-transfer level; building at least three redundant physical copies for each logic function of the particular logic functions having a fault tolerant operator; determining which of said at least three redundant physical copies is faulty using a majority voter; and receiving at said majority voter an output value from each of said at least three redundant physical copies of each logic function, wherein for minority output value at said majority voter, said respective copy is deemed faulty.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nghia M. Doan whose telephone number is 571-272-5973. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Chiang can be reached on 571-272-7483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nghia M. Doan  
Patent Examiner  
AU 2825  
NMD

PAUL DINH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Dinh", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.